

ENGLAND



“Tim Crouch’s original work – **my arm, an oak tree** and now this ‘play for galleries’ – begins to suggest that he is not really a theatre-maker as such, but more a conceptual artist who works in the medium of the performed word. He also confirms himself as a uniquely engaged collaborator with his audience’s imagination and thought processes. In many ways, this is nothing like theatre as we usually understand it, and yet in crucial elements this is its very essence.”

Financial Times

August 2007

ENGLAND

- Is a theatre piece for galleries written by **Tim Crouch** and produced by **news from nowhere**.
- It is the story of a heart transplant, performed by **Tim Crouch** and **Hannah Ringham (Shunt Collective)** and directed by **Karl James** and **a smith**, with sound by award-winning sound artist **Dan Jones**.
- It premiered at **The Fruitmarket Gallery** at the 2007 Edinburgh Festival, where it was produced in partnership with **Traverse Theatre Company, The Fruitmarket Gallery, Warwick Arts Centre** and **Culturgest** (Lisbon).
- It was performed within an exhibition of work by **Alex Hartley**.
- It won a **Fringe First**, a **Total Theatre Award**, and Tim Crouch won a **Herald Archangel** for his body of work, which includes **my arm** (first performed at the **Hayward Gallery** in 2003, winner of a **Prix Italia**, 2005) and the **Obie Award**-winning **an oak tree** (performed at **Tate Modern** in 2006).
- In 2008, **ENGLAND** tours to galleries in Portugal, Ireland, Singapore, USA, Canada, Germany, Norway and the UK.
- **The London run of ENGLAND will be promoted by news from nowhere and the National Theatre.**



**National
Theatre**



“You are transported through time and space, jumping months and continents. There are worrying gaps. The two interlocutors also blur, their personalities at times merging, at times changing. These confusions of identity climactically reflect the ethical and highly emotional issue of who a transplant patient is exactly, if their heart is that of someone else’s dear departed. Beyond this, is the question of whether West and East can co-exist in harmony.”

THE INDEPENDENT



“There is an extraordinary subtlety to the theatre of Tim Crouch... Minimalist, at times conversationally informal, his productions seem on occasions barely to be theatre at all... Two people talking, in the upstairs room of The Fruitmarket Gallery, to an audience of 60 – that (with some discreetly interlaced recorded sound) is all. And yet numerous elements, such as the smart repetition of phrases that blur the distinctions between actor, audience and character, make the piece profoundly theatrical. By the time the show comes to its quietly explosive conclusion, one finds that Crouch and Ringham have, like theatrical pickpockets, insinuated their way into one’s thoughts and feelings.”

THE TELEGRAPH

“Like all Crouch’s shows, it burns with the desire to provoke as it explores not just the nature of theatre but the way we live now, in a world where commerce knows no borders.”

THE GUARDIAN



TECHNICAL DETAILS

ENGLAND is technically very simple.

It requires two rooms within a solo or group show.

There are two performers.

The script is reworked to reference the space and the work.

The show is performed in the gallery's own lighting, with some sound amplification.

It needs just 30 minutes after the gallery closes to prepare for an audience.

It is one hour long.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

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“Hosting Tim Crouch's **ENGLAND** in the context of

The Fruitmarket Gallery's Edinburgh Festival exhibition of the work of Alex Hartley was an unqualified success. The play complemented and illuminated the work in the Gallery, turning audiences for theatre into audiences for art and back again every night. The play brought new visitors to the Gallery, many of whom stayed on or returned to look longer at the art on show. The company respected the Gallery, art and staff at all times, and at no point was the work compromised either physically or conceptually.”

FIONA BRADLEY

Director, The Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh

